disciplinary cases have come to the knowledge of Reserve Bank of India and Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : Information called for in reply to Unstarred Question No. 912 for 3rd August, 1993 has since been furnished to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs on 2nd March, 1994 for being laid on the Table of the House. A copy of the same is given as Annexure. [*See* Appendix 170, Annexure No. 73]. As regards information subsequent to 31-3-1993, the same is not readily available. It is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Import of Consumer Goods

*335. SHRI GAYA SINGH :
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to allow import of consumer goods like TVs, VCRs, VCPs, Washing Machines, etc. against special import licences;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Consumer Electronics and Television Manufacturer's Association (CETMA) has submitted a note to the Ministry pointing out the drawbacks of the proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Commerce has considered various proposals for allowing import of select items against Special Import Licences. In all, 67 items have been indicated in the Shopping List in Appendix XXXV of the Hand Book of Procedures, Vol. I, 1992—97 (Revised Edition March 1994).

(c) and (d) M/s. CETMA had submitted a note to the Ministry of Commerce on the Special Import Licence Scheme stating that free import of consumer electronics items would adversely affect the domestic industry, and in particular, joint venture investment and employment. Special emphasis has been placed on safeguarding the domestic TV Industry against foreign competition. M/s. CETMA had proposed that a period of minimum 3-5 years should be given to the domestic consumer electronics industry for increasing the physical production.

The Government has expanded the list of items allowed for import under the SIL Scheme after carefully considering the suggestions contained in these representations.

New Service Charge Structure adopted by Commercial Banks

*336. DR. SANJAYA SINH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Banks Association has revolved a three-tier service charge structure for adoption by commercial banks;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) whether the proposal has been discussed with Industry Association, Chamber of Commerce and customers' fora; if so, what is their reaction in regard thereto ; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to eliminate delay in the collection of outstation cheques which usually take more than one month, and with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) Indian Banks' Association (IBA) have reported that certain proposals for levying differential service charges keeping in view the customer profile, degree of computerisation and volume of business are under their consideration.

(c) The issue of service charges is discussed in banker-customer meets organised by the IBA from time to time.